Discrimination in payment of compensation to Aircrash victims of Indian origin by Saudi Airlines

*50. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Saudi Airlines have paid differential rates of compensation to victims of the recent aircrash with a stronger discriminatory bias against Indian citizens; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir, The Saudi Airlines has informed that the rates of compensation are in accordance with the applicable law. The families of the victims are being paid upto the highest entitlements.

(b) Does not arise.

Private local area Banks for Rural Savings

*51. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to allow new private local area banks for mobilisation of rural savings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any of such banks have since been set up in Andhra Pradesh so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof with their locations, district-wise functions and criteria fixed for mobilisation of rural savings; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) With a view to providing an institutional mechanism for promoting rural savings as well as for the provision of credit for viable economic activities in the local areas, it has been decided to allow establishment of new local area banks in the private sector. This is expected to bridge the gap in credit availability and enhance the institutional credit framework in rural and semi-urban areas.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have issued guidelines which, inter alia, provide that such a bank shall be registered as a public limited company under the Companies, Act, 1956 and could be licensed under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. Further would be governed by the provision of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 934 and other relevent statutes. The minimum paid up capital of such a bank shall be Rs. 5 crores and the promoters' contribution atleast Rs.2 crore. Proposals having diversified share holdings will be preferred. The promoters of the bank may comprise individuals, corporate entities, trusts and societies. The bank shall be subject to prodential norms and other policies laid down by the RBI from time to time.

(c) to (e) RBI have reported that so far no such bank has been set up in Andhra Pradesh. However, applications received from various States including those from Andhra Pradesh for setting up of such banks are at various stages of scrutiny in RBI, and an 'in principle' approvals has been given for one such banks each in Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Foreign Insurance Firms in India

*52. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some foreign insurance firms like Jardin Insurance Consultants. Ltd. and American Insurance Group have set up their offices in India for doing insurance, re-insurance and insurance brokering business;

(b) whether the Oreintal Insurance Company insured the National Stock Exchange as well as the National Depository and thereafter got the insurance policies re-insured with one of the Australian Companies through Jardin as broker;

(c) whether the foreign insurance companies are providing consultancy services and doing brokering business in the garb of consultancy; and

(d) how many such companies have been allowed to operate in India under what guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Under the existing Insurance Laws, underwriting life and

general insurance business is the exclusive privilege of the Life Insurance Corporation of India and the General Insurance Corporation of India and its subsidiaries. The law provides for a system of licensed 'Agents' for procuring direct insurance business within the country. The law does not prohibit placing reinsurance with foreign reinsurance companies abroad through the medium of reinsurance brokers. The General Insurance Corporation has reported that they transact reinsurance business either directly or through reinsurance brokers. List of such brokers through whom reinsurance outward business and inward treaty business is transacted, are at Statement-I and II (*see below*). No. internal guidelines have been formulated by the GIC for this purpose.

No permission has been accorded by the Government to American Insurance Group to open their office in India for doing insurance and reinsurance business.

It has been reported that the national Stock Exchange (NSE) and National Depository reinsurance risks have been placed by the Oriental Insurance Company with HIH Winterthur, Australia, through Jardin Insurance Brokers Limited, Hong Kong, after retaining a part of the risk in India.

Statement-I

List of brokers through whom GIC Places Reinsurance Outward Business

ndian Brokers

*1. Bhaichand Amoluk, Mumbai
*2. Global Insurance Services, Mumbai
*3. Interlink Reinsurance Consultants, Mumbai
*4. J.B. Boda & Co. Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, on their own behalf. They also represent foreign brokers in India.
*5. Howden Dastur, Mumbai
6. Mankad Associates, Mumbai
*7. Mathrawala & Sons, Mumbai
*8. M.B. Boda & Co. Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai
*9. R.N. Seth, New Delhi
10. Tower Insurance, Mumbai, on their own behalf. They also represent foreign brokers in India.
11. M.F. Reinsurance Services, Mumbai

International Brokers

1. Marsh & McLennan, U.K.

   Represented by J.B. Boda & Comapny, Mumbai in India.

2. Greig Fester, U.K.

   Represented by International Reinsurance and Insurance Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd. (IRICS) Mumbai in India.

*3. India International Singapore
4. Aon Corporation. USA
5. Nireshwalia, Dubai
*6. Willcon International, USA
*7. Willis Faber & Dumas, U.K.
Represented by Tower Ins, Mumabi in India.
8. Sedgwicks Reinsurance Brokers, U.K.
Represented by Mr. H.V Setalwad, Mumbai in India

Statement-II

List of Brokers through whom GIC places inwards Treaty Business

INTERNATIONAL BROKERS

1. ALSFORD PAGE, U.K.
2. AM-RE, USA
3. BAIN BOGG LIMITED, U.K.
4. DURTNELL & FOWLE, U.K.
5. E.W. BLANCH, USA
6. E.W. PAYNE LIMITED, U.K.
7. GREIGS/RS. PRISH, U.K.
8. GUY CARPENTER U.K.
9. HEALTH & FIELDON, U.K.
10. HODDS INS BROKERS, U.K.
11. INDIA INTERNATIONAL SINGAPORE
12. CARPENTER BOWRING (C.T.B.) U.K.
13. JAUCH & HUBNER, U.K.
14. MINE,PURN, AUSTRALIA

* Also do Inward Treaty Business (Enclosure-II) on behalf of General Insurance Industry.

15. NICH. LESLI ASIA, SINGAPORE
16. PANA HARRISON, SINGAPORE
17. SWIFRE BLANCK, SINGAPORE
18. TYSER & CO., U.K
19. WILLCON INC., USA
20. WILLS FABER, U.K.

INDIAN BROKERS

1. DIRECTLY PLACED BY GIC THEMSELVES
2. BHAICHAND AMOLUK, MUMBAI
3. EQUIP ENGINEERS, INDIA
4. GLOBAL INSURANCE SERVICES, MUMBAI, INDIA
5. HOWDEN DASTUR, MUMBAI, INDIA
6. INTERLINK REINSURANCE CONSULTANCY, MUMBAI, INDIA
7. J.B. BODA AND CO. PVT. LTD., MUMBAI, INDIA
8. L. R. RAO, MUMBAI, INDIA
9. M.B. BODA AND CO. PVT. LTD., MUMBAI, INDIA.
10. MATHRAWAA AND SONS, MUMBAI, INDIA
11. R.N. SETH & ASSOCIATES, DELHI, INDIA.

महिलाओं के लिए अलग से न्यायालय

*53. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ल:** क्या विधि और न्याय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार महिलाओं के साथ होने वाले अपराधों के मामलों को निपटाने के लिए गुजरात में कुछ महिला न्यायालयों की स्थापना करने के संबंध में गंभीरता से विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो राज्य के किन-किन शहरों में ऐसे न्यायालय स्थापित किये जाने की संभावना है और क्या राज्य सरकार ने कहा है कि वह इस प्रयोजनार्थ सभी प्रकार की सुविधाएं उपलब्ध करायेगी;

(ग) इस समय राज्य में महिलाओं से संबंधित कितने मामलों के संबंध में सूचना मिली है; और

(घ) महिलाओं को पूरी तरह से न्याय दिलाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या विशेष प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं?

विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री रमाकान्त डी॰ खलप): (क) गुजरात राज्य में महिलाओं के विरुद्ध अपराधों से संबंधित मामलों को निपटाने के लिए महिला न्यायालयों की स्थापना करने के लिए कोई विनिर्दिष्ट प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

(ग) और (घ) जिला/अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों में न्याय प्रशासन, राज्य सरकारों/उच्च न्यायालयों के कार्यक्षेत्र के अधीन आता है। यह संबद्ध राज्य सरकार/उच्च न्यायालय पर निर्भर करता है कि वे अपनी आवश्यकता के अनुसार ऐसे न्यायालय की स्थापना करें और महिलाओं से संबंधित मामलों का भी अभिलेख रखें।

Resentment amongst Central Government Employees over recommendation of Fifth Pay Commission

*54. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that resentment is prevailing amongst the group 'D', 'C' and 'B' Central Government employees as the hike in their salaries is very less as compared to the employees of higher categories in the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to modify the report of this Commission keeping in view the agitation launched by the Central Government employees in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to remove this disparity so as to maintain reasonable gap between these categories?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Some associations/Unions of the Central Government Employees have represented to the Government against certain recommendations of the Commission, including the recommendation relating to the revision of pay scales.

(c) and (d) The Government have set up an Empowered Committee of Secretaries to process the recommendations of the Commission. The views of the employees will be ascertained through the National Council of Joint Consultative Machinery and will be kept in view while taking decisions on the recommendations of the Commission.